

**MICHIGAN INDIAN JUDICIAL ASSOCIATION****RESOLUTION NUMBER 2012-002**

**WHEREAS:** The Michigan Indian Judicial Association was established on August 21, 1991, and its membership is comprised of the Tribal Courts of the federally recognized tribes located within the State of Michigan; and

**WHEREAS:** The Michigan Indian Judicial Association is associated with, and recognized by the State Bar of Michigan; and

**WHEREAS:** The Michigan Indian Judicial Association recognizes that there is no resource so vital to the continuity of the tribal Nations at their children; and

**WHEREAS:** The Michigan Indian Judicial Association recognizes that there has been continued inconsistency in the application of the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, by officials within the State of Michigan, and that additional clarification and reinforcement of the Act's policies may be enacted into state law; and

**WHEREAS:** a broad coalition of stakeholders interested in Indian children and the promotion of the Indian Child Welfare Act, have developed language for a Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act to clarify and heighten awareness of the Indian Child Welfare Act in the State of Michigan; and

**WHEREAS:** Senator Judy K. Emmons, representing Michigan's 33<sup>rd</sup> Senate District, has introduced SB 1232, titled "Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act" which substantially conforms to the language that the coalition of stakeholders prepared; and

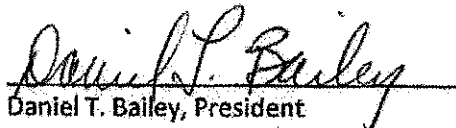
**WHEREAS:** The Michigan Indian Judicial Association believes that the passage of SB 1232 into state law will increase compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, within the State of Michigan, and will better protect the Tribal Nations' interest in promoting the health and welfare of children, and

**WHEREAS:** The Michigan Indian Judicial Association supports SB 1232 as introduced by Senator Emmons, but is respectfully requesting that the attached technical revisions/amendments be added in order to further clarify and improve the compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act.

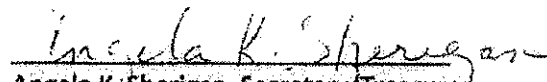
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Michigan Indian Judicial Association at a special meeting on September 11, 2012, declares that it officially supports the introduction and passage of SB 1232, known as the Michigan Indian Preservation Act, by the Michigan Legislature, and approval by the Governor.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the Michigan Indian Judicial Association request that representatives of the Senate Families, Senior and Human Services Committee make the technical revisions described in the attachment hereto and that any such amendments be in the final Bill for consideration for adoption by the Michigan Legislature.

**APPROVED:**


  
Daniel T. Bailey, President  
Michigan Indian Judicial Association

**ATTESTED:**

  
Angela K. Sherigan, Secretary/Treasurer  
Michigan Indian Judicial Association

**CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Michigan Indian Judicial Association do hereby certify that the above referenced Resolution was adopted and approved at a special meeting of the Michigan Indian Judicial Association on September 11, 2012 with six (6) in favor, none abstaining, three (3) absent.

  
Angela K. Sherigan, Secretary/Treasurer